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Exeter Port Health Authority

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
PORT MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR

1969



EXETER PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION - 1970

Town Hall,
Exmouth.

January 1970.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1969. During the year 278 ships, including 97 from foreign ports, representing a total net registered tonnage of 51,272, entered the Port. This is slightly lower than the tonnage for 1968.

As in the past, the chief imports were gravel, petrol, fertilizers, apples and cider. Imports of coal have now ceased and none came into the Port during the year.

The general standard of cleanliness and hygiene on the ships was satisfactory and no action was necessary on the part of the Port Health Inspectors in this respect.

1969 saw the completion of the widening of the Exmouth Dock entrance and it is anticipated that ships up to 1,200 tons dead weight will now be able to use the Dock.

In September, members of the Port Health Authority, the staff and press, were taken on a tour of the Port Health Authority's district and after a luncheon kindly given by the Chairman, the party paid a visit to the Exeter Airport, where they were welcomed and shown round the Airport terminal buildings by the Manager, Mr. H. Ellis.

Finally, I should like to thank the members of this Authority for all the interest which they have shown in the work of the Port Health Authority during the year.

I have the honour to be
Your Obedient Servant

L. G. ANDERSON

Port Medical Officer

SECTION 1 - STAFF

<u>Name of Officer</u>	<u>Nature of Appointment</u>	<u>Date of Appointment</u>	<u>Qualifications</u>	<u>Any other Appointments</u>
Dr. L. G. Anderson	Port Medical Officer	1.8.1949	M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health - Exmouth U.D.C., Budleigh Salterton U.D.C., St. Thomas R.D.C., Asst. County Medical Officer, Devon County Council
Dr. C. W. Evans	Deputy Port Medical Officer	1.7.1968	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond).	Medical Officer of Health (retired)
Mr. F. G. Davies	Port Health Inspector	1.4.1943	F.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E., F.A.P.H.I., Meat & Other Foods Cert.	Chief Public Health Inspector Exeter City Council
Mr. D. R. Redgwell	Port Health Inspector	22.1.1951.	M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Meat & Other Foods Cert., Smoke Inspectors Cert.	Senior Public Health Inspector, Exmouth U.D.C.



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SECTION II

Amount of shipping entering
the District during the year

Ships from	Number	Net Registered Tonnage	By Port Medical Officer	Number Inspected By Port Health Inspector	Number of ships reported as having had infectious diseases on board during the voyage
Foreign Ports	97	19,130	12	77	-
Coastwise	181	32,142	12	61	-
Total	278	51,272	24	138	-

SECTION III

Character of Shipping and Trade during the Year

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	Number of Passengers - Inward Number of Passengers - Outward	Nil Nil
CARGO TRAFFIC	Principal IMPORTS	Sand & Gravel Petrol Apples Fertilizers
	Principal EXPORTS	Milk Powder Spent Oxide Coke Breeze
	Foreign	Caen Ymuiden Sande
PRINCIPAL PORTS FROM WHICH SHIPS ARRIVE	Coastwise	Needles Southampton Goole

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL NET REGISTERED TONNAGE
OF SHIPS ENTERING THE
PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY DISTRICT 1931-1969.

5.

Year	FOREIGN				COASTWISE				TOTAL Foreign & Coastwise
	Exeter	Exmouth	Topsham	Total Foreign	Exeter	Exmouth	Topsham	Total Coastwise	
1931	4,485	11,189	1,408	17,082	6,174	7,931	4,696	18,801	35,883
1932	4,511	14,002	400	18,913	6,695	7,593	5,993	20,227	39,140
1933	3,561	11,044	704	15,264	11,575	16,148	7,089	34,812	50,076
1934	5,459	10,613	537	16,609	16,908	17,233	7,795	41,936	58,545
1935	4,507	9,423	494	14,424	19,944	17,809	7,497	47,250	61,674
1936	4,836	10,208	387	15,431	19,961	22,406	9,783	52,150	67,581
1937	3,967	8,150	390	12,507	18,912	24,912	8,226	51,901	64,408
1938	5,131	10,075	-	15,206	20,021	25,886	8,323	54,230	69,436
1939	5,246	7,220	-	12,466	20,975	21,474	5,424	47,873	60,339
1940	-	577	-	577	6,930	8,412	2,014	17,355	17,932
1941	-	-	-	-	188	5,871	-	6,051	6,051
1942	-	-	-	-	582	3,775	-	4,357	4,357
1943	-	-	-	-	1,435	7,594	-	9,029	9,029
1944	-	-	-	-	1,035	5,088	-	6,123	6,123
1945	-	333	-	333	1,223	6,870	-	8,093	8,426
1946	95	740	-	835	6,491	9,882	45	16,418	17,263
1947	279	979	-	1,258	6,439	21,016	-	27,455	28,713
1948	911	3,035	-	3,946	13,520	18,508	-	32,020	35,966
1949	687	3,651	-	4,338	16,872	15,523	-	32,995	36,735
1950	1,434	1,014	-	2,448	17,192	17,231	-	34,423	36,871
1951	2,399	819	-	3,218	16,900	19,167	-	36,067	39,285
1952	1,491	1,850	-	3,341	18,841	20,348	-	39,189	42,630
1953	2,206	2,780	118	5,104	22,006	22,170	186	44,362	49,466
1954	1,376	5,629	-	7,005	25,795	21,737	190	47,722	54,727
1955	2,630	9,293	178	12,101	26,013	24,563	-	50,576	62,677
1956	2,395	5,179	97	7,671	25,802	21,302	-	47,104	54,775
1957	2,881	5,082	-	7,963	20,406	22,285	-	42,691	50,654
1958	2,201	7,780	998	10,939	22,137	19,465	-	41,602	52,541
1959	2,843	7,478	1,665	11,986	21,120	16,541	-	37,661	49,647
1960	3,217	6,948	1,554	11,719	22,848	34,120	263	37,231	48,950
1961	3,474	7,812	1,586	12,872	24,097	11,879	-	35,976	48,848
1962	2,132	7,702	1,634	11,468	23,791	23,121	978	47,890	59,358
1963	1,571	10,057	2,594	14,222	10,893	36,374	896	48,163	62,385
1964	1,921	8,613	4,423	14,957	12,394	34,570	1,178	48,142	63,099
1965	1,460	9,446	3,260	14,166	12,040	29,473	599	42,112	56,278
1966	9,967	11,769	3,317	16,053	7,420	27,100	534	35,044	51,097
1967	1,603	17,656	3,602	22,861	7,840	27,409	-	35,249	58,110
1968	964	14,771	3,048	18,783	8,260	24,981	314	33,555	52,338
1969	775	16,732	1,623	19,130	7,420	23,530	1,092	32,142	51,272

ACTUAL TONNAGE OF CARGOIMPORTS 1967-9

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
<u>Exeter</u>			
Petrol	14,093	14,040	13,003
Oyster Shell	425	-	-
Timber	1,197 stds	781 stds	648 stds
Sand & Gravel	-	240	240
<u>Exmouth</u>			
Sand & Gravel	54,242	58,790	61,010
Coal	12,529	9,152	-
Cider	7,467	5,918	4,425
Fertilizer	7,920	6,346	6,945
Wood Pulp	5,472	3,325	4,754
Oyster Shell	125	444	480
Timber	1,439 stds	1,555 stds	955 stds
Apples	7,859	3,797	9,738
Potatoes	261	317	405
Raspberry Juice	-	1,137	-
Starch	-	-	364
Milk	-	-	380
Grain	-	-	1,018
Cocoa Shell	-	-	705
Soya Bean Meal	-	-	275
<u>Topsham</u>			
Beer	1,295	1,326	633
Timber	1,312 stds	1,644 stds	668 stds
Barrels	5,830	72	153
Raspberry Juice	400	-	-
Machinery	-	2	84
Potatoes	-	540	691
Oyster Shell	-	185	-

ACTUAL TONNAGE OF CARGOEXPORTS 1967-9

	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
<u>Exeter</u>	-	-	-
<u>Exmouth</u>			
Machinery	15	-	-
Coke Breeze	9,263	2,196	-
Milk Powder	4,327	6,166	361
Stone	610	506	-
Cider Apples	10	-	-
Paper Reels	-	-	161
Waste Paper	-	-	282
Spent Oxide	-	-	661
<u>Topsham</u>			
Fish	377	447	588

SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There are no barges which use this district.

SECTION V - WATER SUPPLY

1. Sources of Supply for (a) the district and (b) shipping

The statutory supplier of water for both purposes in all areas is the East Devon Water Board.

2. Reports of tests for contamination

Regular routine tests are carried out by the East Devon Water Board. The supplies are chlorinated and the bacteriological results were all satisfactory.

3. Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes

The hydrants and hosepipes are regularly inspected by the Port Health Inspectors. The hosepipes are stored undercover when not in use and are well flushed out prior to use.

4. Number and sanitary condition of water boats

There are no water boats operating at this Port.

SECTION VI - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS 1966

1. List of Infected Areas

A copy of the Weekly Epidemiological Record, supplied by the World Health Organisation is forwarded each week to the following:

The Preventive Officer, H.M. Customs Office, The Docks, Exmouth,
F. G. Davies, Esq., Port Health Inspector, Exeter and Topsham.

2. Radio Messages

(a) Arrangements for sending permission, by radio, for ships to enter the district

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for sending wireless messages if required.

(b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships and for action thereon

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for receiving wireless messages if required.

3. Notification otherwise than by radio

(a) Arrangements for receiving notification otherwise than by radio and for action thereon

Arrangements have been made with the Post Office for the transmission of telegrams to the Port Medical Officer.

A constant watch is maintained at H.M. Coastguard Station, Exmouth, from which signals by morse or flag may be sent or received as and when necessary and transmitted to the Medical Officer of Health or the Police.

4. Mooring Stations

- (a) Ships proceeding up the Canal to the Exeter Wharfs -

There are two buoys situated in that portion of the estuary of the River Exe known as the Bight, to which all ships arriving from foreign ports make fast before boarding by H.M. Customs Officers.

- (b) Ships whose destination is Exmouth Harbour -

These ships may make fast either to the buoys, as above, or to the Pier Head, Exmouth.

- (c) Where action is to be taken under Regulations 22-30, (Regulations dealing with the control of infectious diseases), the ships will be made fast to one of the buoys situated in the Bight, as above.

5. Arrangements for:

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases, other than smallpox
Patients suffering from infectious diseases will be transferred by ambulance to the infectious diseases hospital of the Regional Hospital Board, at Whipton, Exeter. Telephone 67158.

- (b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts
Surveillance and follow-up of contacts will be undertaken by the Port Medical Officer whilst the ship is within his district. Where the ship has to proceed to another port before the expiration of the period of surveillance, the contacts will be given letters to take to the Port Medical Officer of the next port of call, informing him of the circumstances.

- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing and other articles.
Disinfection of ships will, when necessary, be undertaken by the Port Medical Officer, the formaldehyde method being used. Disinfection of clothing or bedding may be carried out at the steam disinfector station of the Exeter City Council.

Cleansing of verminous persons will be carried out by the Port Health Inspector on the ship itself and the clothing, bedding etc. removed to the steam disinfector station at Exeter for treatment.

SECTION VII - SMALLPOX

1. The transport of cases

The transport of cases of smallpox will be undertaken by a special infectious diseases ambulance by arrangement with the Exeter City Ambulance Officer, to Liskeard, Cornwall.

2. Consultants - the following consultants are available if necessary -

Dr. E. J. G. Wallace,
Health Centre,
Westham Road,
WEYMOUTH

Telephone: 1645

Dr. W. St. John Brooke,
West Cornwall Hospital,
PENZANCE

Telephone 2382

3. Facilities for laboratory diagnosis of smallpox

Specimens for laboratory diagnosis will be sent to:

The Virus Reference Laboratory,
Central Public Health Laboratory,
Colindale Avenue, London N.W.9.

SECTION VIII - VENEREAL DISEASE

Masters of vessels are informed of the following arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seamen under international arrangements.

Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital: Monday - 19.00 hrs to 20.00 hrs.
Friday - 14.00 hrs to 15.00 hrs.

SECTION IX - CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

There have been no cases of infectious diseases aboard ships entering the Port during 1969.

SECTION X - OCCURENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

No cases of malaria were notified.

SECTION XI - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH, OR SUSPECTED OF PLAGUE

No measures were necessary under this section.

SECTION XII - MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

1. Procedure for inspection of ships for rats: enquiries are made from masters of all vessels using the Port concerned regarding the presence of rats, and if present, of signs of unusual mortality during the year.
2. The bacteriological examination of rodents with special reference to rodent plague are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory in Exeter.
3. Deratting of ships: the Exeter Port Health Authority is not a recognised authority for this purpose. A ship requiring deratisation would be referred to the port of Plymouth.
4. Progress of rat-proofing of ships: the general construction of the ships and nature of cargo using this Port are not conducive to rat breeding and other than efforts to maintain a high standard of cleanliness, no action appears necessary.

SECTION XIII - INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

Nature and number of inspections	Notices	Served	Result of Serving Notices
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Routine 138	-	-	-
Total 138	-	-	-

One Rodent Control Certificate was issued under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping Orders, 1951-56). A charge of ten shillings was made for this certificate and the money was paid, as received, to the Secretary of the Authority,

SECTION XIV - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS, 1934, 1938

During the year, samples treated at the Mussel Purification Station at Lympstone were submitted for bacteriological examination. All samples were found to be satisfactory.

The Exe Shellfish Co., Exmouth employ the method of sterilization by boiling under pressure, and this has proved very satisfactory during the year. Of the ten samples of shellfish which were sent to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination during the year, all were found to be satisfactory.

Nature of specimen	Number of samples	Result, according to the Fishmongers' Company Standards
Mussels	4	satisfactory
Cockles	4	satisfactory
Potted Crab	2	satisfactory

SECTION XV - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

This Port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

SECTION XVI - MISCELLANEOUS

Arrangements for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious diseases

Such persons would be conveyed by the infectious diseases ambulance to the mortuary at Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter, to await burial.

